

BYS 120 Sect. 01 ORGANISMAL BIOLOGY Spring 2004 Lecture Syllabus
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Lecture meets MWF 9:10 – 10:05 in Room 141 of Wilson Hall
Required Textbook: *BIOLOGY* 6th ed., by Campbell, Reece
(a lab manual is also required for the laboratory section, and a recommended photo book)

Chapter in Campbell, Reece:

Descent with Modification: A Darwinian View of Life Chapter 22

The Evolution of Populations Chapter 23

The Origin of Species Chapter 24

Phylogeny and Systematics Chapter 25

EXAM 1, Wednesday, February 11

Plant Diversity I: How Plants Colonized Land Chapter 29

Plant Diversity II: The Evolution of Seed Plants Chapter 30

Fungi Chapter 31

EXAM 2, Wednesday, March 3

An Introduction to Animal Structure and Function Chapter 40

Circulation and Gas Exchange Chapter 42

Regulating the Internal Environment Chapter 44

EXAM 3, Friday, April 9

Population Ecology Chapter 52

Community Ecology Chapter 53

FINAL EXAM: Friday, April 30, 8 – 10:30 a.m..

HOURLY EXAMS: Three hourly exams will be given. The lowest of these grades will be dropped in the calculation of your final course grade. Due to logistical and fairness issues, **NO MAKE-UP EXAMS WILL BE GIVEN.** If you miss an hourly exam, that becomes your dropped grade. It is your responsibility to make the time and effort to take hourly exams. Hourly exams count for 50% of your total course grade.

FINAL EXAM: a comprehensive exam (covers everything!) given Friday, April 30, 8 – 10:30 a.m. This exam counts for 25% of your total course grade. You must take the final exam to pass this class.

LABORATORY SECTION: Attendance in the laboratory section is mandatory; you cannot pass this class if you do not receive a passing grade (60) in the laboratory section. You are enrolled in a specific laboratory section; you must attend this section and meet the grading criteria of that section's instructor. The laboratory grade counts for 25% of your total course grade.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES, ORGANISMAL BIOLOGY BYS 120
(Prof. Bruce Stallsmith)**

This class is a 4 credit lecture and laboratory course for which you will receive a letter grade. I expect it will take about 7 – 9 hours per week for study and homework. In this class we study the fundamentals of how living systems function and maintain themselves, starting at the smallest levels of organization (molecules) and focusing on the structure and operation of the basic unit of life, the cell. This class is designed to prepare students for careers in the life sciences, and also to educate other students about the properties of life. Success in this class requires as prerequisites good studying skills, and solid math and reading skills. If you are enrolled in a basic math course or have not taken and passed a pre-algebra course or higher, you should not be in this class.

Attendance: Punctual class attendance is a major portion of this class since the contents of class lectures and laboratories are not replicable. You should attend every class; there is no allowable number of cuts. If you must miss a class, you should make arrangements to find out what you missed and get any materials that were handed out in class.

All class material must be completed and turned in by the last class meeting unless otherwise explicitly arranged. This is true for both the lecture and laboratory sections. Please don't try to turn in lab reports 6 weeks late, this wastes everyone's time.

Cheating and Plagiarism: There is zero tolerance for any form of cheating, which includes plagiarism—the submission of the work of someone else as your own with no attribution. This is especially relevant in the laboratory sections. Any incidents will be reported to the Vice President for Students Affairs, whose office is responsible for implementing university policies on academic misconduct as described in the Student Handbook.

Extra Credit Question on the Final Exam: The following question will be on the final exam as an essay to be written during the final exam. It addresses what I hope is the unifying theme of this class. It is worth up to 3 percentage points added to your overall class average.

“Name and describe a process (or processes) that have significantly contributed to the increase and maintenance of biodiversity on this planet over the past 4 billion years.”